

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ANKARA 03698 150947Z
ACTION EUR-08

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LIMDIS

MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: MARR, TU
SUBJECT: U.S. WITHDRAWAL FROM KARAMURSEL

REF: A. CHIEF JUSMMAT MSG DTG 041309Z MAY 78 (NOTAL)
B. STATE 38162, DTG 140112Z FEB 78 (NOTAL)
C. ANKARA 802, DTG 310810Z JAN 78 (NOTAL)

1. AS DEPARTMENT AND OTHER ADDRESSEES ARE AWARE, LITTLE
ACTUAL PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE THUS FAR IN THE REALIGNMENT OF FUNCTIONS

AND UNITS REQUIRED FOR NORTHWESTERN TURKEY SUPPORT AS A RESULT
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OF U.S. WITHDRAWAL FROM KARAMURSEL. MEETINGS WITH THE TURKISH
GENERAL STAFF (TGS), SUCH AS THE ONE REPORTED IN REF A, HAVE
SERVED TO SURFACE INITIAL GOT DEMANDS RELATING TO USG
EQUIPMENT AT KARAMURSEL, CONDITION OF BUILDINGS AND OTHER
REAL PROPERTY, AND A FORMAL AGREEMENT OR "PROTOCOL" GOVERNING
THE TURNOVER. NOTWITHSTANDING THESE BARGAINING POSITIONS,
THE TURKS HAVE NOT (RPT NOT) CHALLENGED THE BASIC USG INTENTION

TO WITHDRAW FROM KARAMURSEL, NOR HAVE THEY SPECIFICALLY OPPOSED THE REALIGNMENT OF NORTHWESTERN TURKEY SUPPORT FUNCTIONS AND UNITS.

2. WITH REGARD TO ONGOING SUPPORT FOR U.S. ACTIVITIES IN NORTHWESTERN TURKEY, WE ARE CONTINUING TO PROVIDE TGS AND THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WITH OUR PLANS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS. ADDITIONALLY, WE ARE CONTINUING WITH OUR APPROACH (PARA 2 REF C) TO RELOCATE 200 HOUSING UNITS FROM KARAMURSEL TO INCIRLIK. EFFORTS TO REFINE EQUIPMENT LISTS AND REQUIREMENTS ARE ALSO BEING PURSUED BY THE AGENCIES CONCERNED. FURTHER MEETINGS AND EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION WITH THE TURKS IN COMING WEEKS MAY BE DESIRABLE TO CLARIFY AND SUPPORT USG PLAN AND REQUIREMENTS.

3. NEVERTHELESS, FROM THE TURKISH STANDPOINT THERE ARE CERTAIN "FUNDAMENTAL" ISSUES THAT WILL HAVE TO BE CLARIFIED IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS IF WE ARE TO HAVE GOT COOPERATION FOR THE U.S. DRAWDOWN. SPECIFICALLY: HOW MUCH EQUIPMENT IS THE USG WILLING TO TURN OVER TO THE GOT AT RESIDUAL VALUE COST?; TO WHAT DEGREE WILL BUILDINGS AND OTHER FACILITIES BE LEFT INTACT?; AND HOW MIGHT KARAMURSEL BE USED TO FACILITATE A START-UP OF OPERATIONS AT OTHER INSTALLATIONS IF THE ARMS EMBARGO IS REPEALED BY CONGRESS? AT THIS JUNCTURE, THE VIEWS OF THE DEPARTMENT AND WASHINGTON AGENCIES ARE NEEDED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

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A. AN INDICATION OF HOW "GENEROUS" THE USG MIGHT BE IN THE TURNOVER OF FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT IF THE ARMS EMBARGO IS REPEALED, NEGOTIATIONS ARE INITIATED FOR A NEW DEFENSE COOPERATION ARRANGEMENT, AND WE PRESS THE TURKS FOR AN IMMEDIATE START-UP OF OPERATIONS AT OUR OTHER FACILITIES.

B. CURRENT THINKING AS TO HOW THE RESIDUAL VALUE OF REAL AND INSTALLED PROPERTY WILL BE CALCULATED AND WHAT TERMS MIGHT BE OFFERED TO THE TURKS REGARDING PAYMENT OF RESIDUAL VALUE COSTS.

C. REAFFIRMATION OF POSITION THAT THE USG IS NOT (RPT NOT) INTERESTED IN PROVIDING EQUIPMENT OR FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO A TURKISH SIGINT OPERATION AT KARAMURSEL OR ONGOING SUPPORT FOR TURKISH NAVAL TRAINING ACTIVITIES THERE.

4. WE WOULD NOT (RPT NOT) SURFACE USG POSITIONS ON FOREGOING POINTS WITH THE TURKS UNTIL INSTRUCTED TO DO SO, BUT WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS NECESSARY FOR US TO HAVE SUCH GUIDANCE NOW IF WE ARE TO PURSUE OUR IMPORTANT OBJECTIVES RELATING TO THE REALIGNMENT OF LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FUNCTIONS, HOUSING, AND

THE REMOVAL OF HIGH PRIORITY ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT. APART FROM THESE QUESTION, WHICH INVOLVE THE PROCESSING OF CARGO AND PERSONNEL CLEARANCES WITH TGS, WE WOULD ALSO HOPE TO BE ABLE TO EXPLAIN TO THE TURKS OUR GENERAL PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINING RESIDUAL VALUE. WE WOULD IN THIS CONTEXT AGAIN EMPHASIZE THAT THEIR PREROGATIVE TO ACQUIRE USG EQUIPMENT PERTAINS ONLY TO THOSE ITEMS EXCESS TO USG REQUIREMENTS AS DETERMINED BY US.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: VIEWS OF THE DEPARTMENT AND WASHINGTON AGENCIES ON POINTS CONTAINED IN PARAS 3 (A), (B) AND (C) ABOVE.
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